

**Document:** Notice of Intent to Adopt a Rule

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**TITLE 470 DIVISION OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN**

LSA Document #00-214

Under IC 4-22-2-23, the Division of Family and Children intends to adopt a rule concerning the following:

**OVERVIEW:** The rule will amend several provisions of the existing rule, 470 IAC 3-10, relating to the Indiana Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) for special needs children. It will eliminate membership in a minority group as an eligibility criterion and make children two (2) years of age or older, or a sibling group in which one child is two (2) years of age or older, eligible for adoption assistance payments to the adoptive parents providing the child meets the other eligibility requirements of the rule. The rule will clarify the conditions for termination of an adoption assistance agreement to include specifically the death of the child or the death of the adoptive parent or parents. The rule will revise the description of determinations required, and the entity or entities responsible for making those determinations, regarding the availability of the child for adoption as an eligibility requirement for the program. The rule will add language clarifying the time in the adoption process when one (1) or more of the special needs criteria must be satisfied. The rule will also update terminology and statutory references in the existing rule, delete an obsolete reference to an interlocutory adoption decree, and make other nonsubstantive language changes. Statutory authority: IC 12-13-5-1; IC 12-13-5-3. Affected: IC 31-19-27; IC 31-9-2-51. Contact person: John Wood, Legal Division, Family and Social Services Administration, Indiana Government Center-South, 402 West Washington Street, Room W451, 233-6547.